

river valley or marshland colonies to exploit the grassy road verges that now cross what was until recently relatively grassless, rainswept moorland. All colour variations including the bright purple femal have been found easily in the region, although the long winged f. *explicatus* is not yet recorded. One further point of interest worth mentioning is that all four grasshoppers in the Highland Zone appear to mature very early with the same early maturity (mid June onwards) as is more normal in the South of England. Presumably the long days of May and June in the Far North encourage this early maturity. It is to be hoped that these notes will stimulate further interest in our highland Orthoptera as this may well be the location for discovering essential details about the species present.

Finally, it may be worth speculating whether or not further species could occur in the region. Certainly there are no other common and widespread species. As has been suggested, *T. subulata* might be found in marshy ground in warm areas and the nocturnal oak bush-cricket *Meconema thalassinum* (De Geer) could be worth searching for in the old oak woods of the West Highlands around Loch Lomond or towards the coast where the purple hairstreak butterfly, *Quercusia quercus* L. occurs. Lepidopterists with light traps are the most likely entomologists to come across this insect in more remote areas. Another faint possibility is the presence of that elusive grasshopper *Stenobothrus stigmaticus* (Rambur). Any really small but fully winged grasshopper of 12 millimetres length or less is worth closest scrutiny and a voucher specimen to the British Museum Natural History.

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EUPITHECIA PHOENICEATA RAMBUR: CYPRESS PUG IN ESSEX.
 – On the night of 16th September 1981, I caught a specimen of this moth in my garden at Tilbury. This is the second record of this species for Essex, the first for South Essex. – C. C. PENNEY, 39 Chaucer Close, Tilbury, Essex.